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is reason for placing the number of Nonconformists in 1688 at something under three times the number of freeholds. But statistical conjectures aside, the inherent interest of the register itself, and the comprehensive index, will give the volume a permanent place in the material for the history of Dissent.

C. E. FRYER.

The Expansion of Europe: the Culmination of Modern History.

By RAMSAY MUIR, Professor of Modern History in the University of Manchester. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1917. Pp. xii, 243. \$2.00.)

HAD Professor Muir written his book before the war, he might have been more appreciative of the fact that nations other than Great Britain have had a highly important share in the spread of European civilization over the world. Had he written it after the United States became associated with Great Britain in the struggle, he might not have cavilled at this country so much.

The general purpose of the work is to "survey . . . the sources and character of the great process by which, during the last four centuries, the whole world has been subjugated by the civilisation of Europe, and its bearing upon the problems of the Great War". In the presentation the "predominant place is given to the British Empire", not only because of its territorial extent, but because "the variety of types which it includes makes it the most interesting political structure which ever existed in the world, while the principles upon which it has gradually come to be directed are of the highest significance and value, and have not been sufficiently analysed".

While it is perfectly obvious that in any account of the expansion of Europe the British Empire must be accorded the largest share for both size and achievement, the tale could have been unfolded with much less national self-glorification and with fewer bland assertions of superiority over the rest of mankind. Some allusion might have been made to the fact that, more than was the case with any other great colonial dominion, the British Empire was built up by conquest on the ruins of what had been acquired earlier by Continental European states. Perhaps it might have been desirable not to intimate quite so strongly that "force and fraud" were characteristic of the modes of securing colonial territory by all European countries except Great Britain. It may be doubted, furthermore, whether the principles to which Professor Muir alludes have not been "sufficiently analysed"—by Seeley and Dilke, for example.

The work is divided into ten chapters, of which the first is given over to an explanation of the "meaning and motives of imperialism", and the last to conjectures about the present war and its outcome. About one-fourth of the contents is devoted to the period up to 1763. Of the remainder the chapter on the transformation of the British Empire between 1815 and 1878 is easily the best in the book. Here the reasons for

the tolerant attitude that Great Britain adopted toward its colonies, and notably toward those of the self-governing type, are summarized with much skill and cogency.

In a work on so comprehensive a theme one would naturally expect to find something more than an explanation of the process of territorial and political expansion of Great Britain and incidentally of other European states. A proportionate account should have been furnished of the social, economic, moral, and intellectual results of the contact of Europeans with non-European lands and peoples, including the influence exercised by way of reaction upon the European type of civilization itself. Of all this there is hardly a trace. In fact, the reviewer is inclined to doubt whether Professor Muir has ever made a careful study in all its phases of the actual work of expansion carried on by the several European nations, which would enable him to estimate accurately the accomplishments of each as compared with those of Great Britain alone. Had he done so, he would have fallen into fewer errors alike of concept and of statement, such as that the defeat of the Armada "threw the ocean roads of trade open . . . to the sailors of all nations" and "established the Freedom of the Seas" (page 22).

WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD.

La Question d'Orient depuis ses Origines jusqu'à la Grande Guerre.

By ÉDOUARD DRIAULT. Septième Édition. (Paris: Félix Alcan. 1917. Pp. xv, 432. 7 fr.)

The Eastern Question: an Historical Study in European Diplomacy.

By J. A. R. MARRIOTT. (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1917. Pp. viii, 456. \$5.50.)

M. DRIAULT'S book, now appearing in its seventh edition, has for nearly twenty years served as the standard summary in the French language of the history of the question of the Near East. Mr. Marriott presents a new study, intended to provide the English-speaking world with a similar summary. The two works are, however, by no means parallel, because of M. Driault's broader conception: he has taken for his theme the "retreat of Islam" in Europe, Africa, and Asia, meaning the shrinking of the total area ruled by Mohammedan governments; Mr. Marriott limits himself strictly to "the gradual disappearance of the Turkish Empire in Europe" and its causes and consequences. Each gives about three-fourths of his space to the events of the last hundred years. Both writers strive to be impartial, but Mr. Marriott, despite the fact that he produced his entire book during the Great War, succeeds somewhat the better in avoiding particularistic points of view. On the other hand, he confines himself more to the recital of events, without arriving at so many clear generalizations and illuminating interpretations as M. Driault. This is, perhaps, only saying that one writer is French and the other English.